

Appl. No. : 10/827,016  
Filed : April 19, 2004

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Please amend the Claim Form and Claim as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~. Please cancel Claims 5 and 6. Please add Claims 13-16.**

1 (currently amended): A martial arts equipment comprising an equipment body that is worn by a participant during match or during practice of a martial arts activity in which one participant inflicts a blow on another participant's body, and is filled with an impact-reducing material at places where an impact involved in the blow is delivered; wherein

the impact-reducing material includes a high impact absorptivity high density foam material having an excellent impact absorbing performance in a layer form,

the martial arts equipment is a headgear including a gear body, serving as the equipment body, placed on and worn by the head of a participant,

an opening for exposing an eye part of the wearer is formed on a front face of the gear body, and the front face as well as sides of the gear body are filled with the impact-reducing material, and

the impact-reducing material includes a thin rigid material placed between the high impact absorptivity high density foam material and the high elastic foam material at around the opening of the gear body.

2 (original): The martial arts equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the impact-reducing material has a layer structure consisting of a high elastic foam material on a face (impact first delivered face) where the impact involved in the blow is first delivered, and the high impact absorptivity high density foam material on a back face side thereof.

3 (original): The martial arts equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the impact-reducing material has a layer structure consisting of the high impact absorptivity high density foam material on a face (impact first delivered face) where the impact involved in the blow is first delivered, and a high elastic foam material on a back face side thereof.

4 (original): The martial arts equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the high impact absorptivity high density foam material has an impact absorbing performance of ball rebound elasticity of 15% or below under a condition that a ball weigh is 286g and a height of fall is 50.8cm.

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5-6 (canceled)

7 (original): The martial arts equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the martial arts equipment is a punch mitt including a mitt body, serving as the equipment body, fitted to and worn by the hand of a trainer performing as the opposing participant, wherein

a front side of the mitt body acts as an impact receiving side, and a back side of the mitt body is provided with a glove portion to which the trainer puts the hand into; and

substantially the entire mitt body is filled with the impact-reducing material.

8 (original): The martial arts equipment as claimed in claim 1, wherein the martial arts equipment is a glove including a glove body, serving as the equipment body, fitted to and worn by the hand of the participant, wherein

an overall shape of the glove body is formed into a glove shape that fits the hand of the participant; and

a side in the glove body of the back of the hand is filled with the impact-reducing material.

9 (currently amended): A martial arts protection equipment comprising a laminated pad having at least two layers, wherein an outer layer is made of a rubber elastic foam material and an inner layer is made of an impact absorptivity foam material,

said outer layer having a thickness smaller than that of the inner layer,

said impact absorptivity foam material having a ball rebound elasticity of about 5-10% as measured when a ball weight of 286g falls from a height of 50.8cm,

said rubber elastic foam material having a higher rebound elasticity and a lower density than the impact absorptivity foam material.

10 (previously presented): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the impact absorptivity foam material is a high-density urethane foam.

11 (previously presented): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the rubber elastic foam material is a soft poly-styrene elastomer cross-linked foam.

12 (previously presented): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the pad further comprises a thin rigid material between the outer layer and the inner layer.

13 (new): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, further comprising a flexible skin material with which the pad is covered and enclosed.

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14 (new): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the outer layer has a thickness of 5-20 mm, and the inner layer has a thickness of 20-45 mm.

15 (new): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the outer layer is comprised of multiple layers.

16 (new): The martial arts protection equipment according to Claim 9, wherein the inner layer is comprised of multiple layers.